

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office action dated February 16, 2006 are respectfully requested.

I. Amendments

Claim 1 is amended for clarity. Claim 1 is further amended to recite the plurality of conjugates form a micellular suspension. Basis for this amendment can be found at least on page 6, lines 23-24.

The claim amendments add no new matter.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner objects to the preamble for reciting a composition. Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify the composition.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

III. Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-20 and 57-60 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being directed to an invention not patentably distinct from claims 1-19 of co-owned U.S. Patent No. 6,056,973.

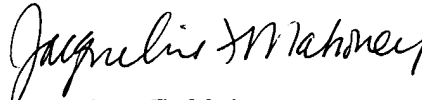
A Terminal Disclaimer prepared in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321(b) and (c) is enclosed. The signed Terminal Disclaimer obviates the above obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the claims now pending are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is, therefore, respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at 650-838-4410 if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,



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